

READING COMPREHENSIONS_7

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it.

The King of Kanchi set off to conquer Kamat. He was victorious in battle. The elephants were laden with sandalwood, ivory gold and precious stones, taken from the conquered kingdom of Kamat. They would be a part of the victory parade for his subjects. On his way back home he stopped at a temple, finished his prayers to the goddess and turned to leave. Around his neck, was a garland of scarlet hibiscus and as was the custom for all, his forehead was anointed with red sandal paste. His Minister and the court jester were his only companions. At one spot, in a mango grove by the wayside, they **spied** some children play. The King said, "Let me go and see what they are playing."

"The children had lined up two rows of clay dolls and were playing warriors and battles. The king asked, "Who is fighting with whom?" They said, "Kamat is at battle with Kanchi." The king asked, "who is winning and who is the loser?" The children puffed their chests up and said, "Kamat will win and Kanchi will lose." The Minister **froze** in disbelief, the King was furious and the jester burst into laughter.

The King was soon joined by his troops and the children were still **immersed in** their game. The King commanded, "Cane them hard." The children's parents came running from the nearby village and said, "They are naïve, it was just a game, please grant them **pardon**." The King called his commander and ordered, "Teach these children and the village a lesson so that they never forget the king of Kanchi." He went back to his camp.

That evening the commander stood before the King. He bowed low in shame and said, "Your Majesty, with the exception of hyenas and vultures, all lie silent in the village." The Minister said, "His Majesty's honour has been saved." The priest said, "The goddess has blessed our King." The jester said, "Your highness, please grant me **leave** to go now." The King asked, "But why?" The jester said, "I cannot kill, I cannot maim, I can only laugh at God's gift of life." Trembling in the face of the King's anger he bravely continued, "If I stay in your Majesty's court, I shall become like you and I shall forget how to laugh."

59. Why were the elephants carrying loads of gold and other valuables?

a) This was what the king had looted from Karnat to distribute among his soldiers as a reward

b) This was the king's offering to the deity out of gratitude for making him victorious

c) It was what the king had plundered from Karnat to display to the people of his kingdom as a sign of victory

d) So that the people of the kingdom of Karnat acknowledged him as their ruler

e) None of these

60. Why did the king anoint his head with red sandal paste?

a) As a mark of celebration to show he had been victorious

b) It was the usual practice for all devotees at the temple

c) To show other devotees that he was king

d) To priest requested him to do so

e) To show his soldiers that he had visited the temple

61. What excuse was given for the children's behaviour?

a) They were disobedient to their parent's wishes

b) They were unaware of the true facts of the battle

c) They were upset that their army had lost

d) They were in the habit of lying

e) None of these

62. Which of the following is true in the context of the passage?

a) The king stopped at the temple to see what else could be plundered

b) The people of the village to which the children belonged developed great respect for the king

c) The commander was ashamed at having obeyed the king's orders to the children

d) The jester was unhappy that the king had defeated the army of Karnat

e) None of these

63. Why did the jester resign from his post?

- a) He felt that the king was too influenced by the Minister
- b) To show that he disapproved of the king's action of punishing the children
- c) He did not want to accompany the king on his war campaign
- d) He was no longer able to make the king laugh
- e) None of these

64. Why was the king angry with the children?

- a) Because the game they were playing was dangerous
- b) They had lied him
- c) They did not recognize him as king
- d) They had unknowingly insulted him
- e) They were rude to him

Directions (Q. 65-67) Choose the word which is most nearly the same in meaning as the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

65. Froze

- a) Cold
- b) Numb
- c) Shivered
- d) Stood still
- e) Chill

66. Leave

- a) Holiday
- b) Transfer
- c) Exit
- d) Permission
- e) Farewell

67. Spied

- a) Noticed

- b) Keep watch
- c) Followed
- d) Spot
- e) Caught

Directions (Q. 68-69) Choose the word which is most opposite in meaning of the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

68. Immersed in

- a) Safe from
- b) Distracted from
- c) Boring
- d) Drowning in
- e) Entertained by

69. Pardon

- a) Punishment
- b) Excuse
- c) Convict
- d) Intolerance
- e) Imprison

59. Option C

60. Option B

61. Option B

62. Option C

63. Option E

64. Option D

65. Option B

66. Option D

67. Option A

68. Option B

69. Option A